

Interwar Research Project

Background: World War I was an event that changed the way that people in many nations thought about a number of different things. After the war, some people wanted to remember the war in order to prevent it from happening again. Other people preferred to distract themselves with new ideas in the sciences, art, music, and with cultural movements that they believed would move the world forward, rather than looking back. This assignment will require you to **perform research and write a short thesis paper** regarding developments in science, art, music, or culture that took place during the Interwar Period.

Your Task:

1. Select a research question from this assignment sheet. Please note that this is a thesis, not a report restating research. Your thesis should be something someone can disagree with. Consider analyzing how a particular element of the interwar period exemplified the age of anxiety or how it represented a cultural change from the pre-war world. These ideas involved your personal analysis and therefore represent an argument you are making.
2. You will have 3 class periods and time at home for research. During that time, you should...
 - Create a *focused* thesis statement that answers the research question. This is a very short assignment so the thesis should focus on **one** particular event, individual, style, etc.
 - Perform research on the library databases and internet and take notes with Noodletools notecards. See the sample notecard to review note-taking expectations. Please share your project with your teacher's dropbox.
 - Keep track of the sources that you use in Noodletools, and create a bibliography in MLA format that contains citations for all of your information. **Don't forget to export this and paste it into your final paper!**
 - Use at least **two** sources *other than* the "Age of Anxiety" reading. EVERYONE will need to cite the "Age of Anxiety" reading. I will provide this citation information to you in class.
3. Write a 750 word, 1.5 spaced thesis paper that addresses the research question in an organized manner.
 - Your paper should have a proper MLA heading, spelling, grammar, and mechanics.
 - Almost all of your research will be paraphrased and CITED. Use direct quotes for only the most compelling evidence (i.e. something you can't reword with the same impact). NOTE: Any information that comes from your sources, directly quoted or paraphrased, MUST BE CITED. It was not your information so you must acknowledge who's it was, even if you've phrased it in your own words. You should parenthetically cite in MLA format (Author or "First Key Word of Article Title") any information that is not yours. NOTE: The word in your parentheses should be the first word in the citation on your works cited page.
 - For a paper of this size you should have very short and to the point introductions and conclusions. Make sure you have a clear thesis statement in whatever intro you include.
 - Though this is a short writing assignment, you should organize your evidence into focused paragraphs. How you organize your research is up to you.
 - Since most of this assignment is about change, you should discuss how things were *prior to* this period in order to draw contrast or you may want to define how or why this age is "anxious." You may use the "Age of Anxiety" reading to get this information and include a summary sentence or brief paragraph. This information/packet does NOT need to be cited in your bibliography. You could consider using this information as the introduction to your paper and end this paragraph with your thesis statement.
4. Include your complete MLA Bibliography exported from Noodletools (so it is properly formatted) for all research used.

Papers will be due on TurnItIn on **Thursday, February 17** by 9:00 PM.

Interwar Research Questions: (T) means there is information in Ch. 15 Sec 1 of your textbook to get you started with ideas. Other basic information comes from our Interwar text from class.

- How did the **role of women** in politics and society change during the interwar years? (T)
- What important new ideas in **science and medicine** emerged in the interwar years?
- How did people **entertain** themselves during the interwar years?
- How did **art** change after World War I?
- What new directions did **music** and **literature** take during the interwar years? (T)
- What new forms of **architecture** emerged in the interwar years?
- How did **transportation technology** advance during the interwar years? (T)
- How did **household technology** change peoples' homes in the interwar years?
- How did favorite local **athletes** become national heroes during the interwar years?

Your Grade:

Focus: Writer demonstrates an understanding of the topic, has a clear thesis that answers the research question, and shows awareness of audience. Paper shows depth of understanding on a focused topic. Paper has some kind of an argument, not just an overview of research.	___/ 6
Organization: The writer uses introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs or sentences to skillfully group research evidence with corresponding arguments.	___/ 5
Elaboration & Analysis: The writer supports ideas with details and evidence, most of which are specific, accurate, and relevant. These ideas are clearly connected to the thesis statement (argument) of the paper in the writer's own analysis.	___/ 8
Fluency: The writer chooses words appropriately, uses transitions consistently between ideas and paragraphs, and varies sentence structure to ensure that the writing reads fluently.	___/ 3
Mechanics: The paper contains few to no obvious spelling or grammatical errors. Paper uses a scholarly tone. Paper uses a consistent point of view and tense.	___/ 3
Research and Citation: Sources are adequate in number, quality, and depth of information. Information is taken from a variety of sources and balanced throughout the paper. Evidence is correctly parenthetically cited within the text of the paper. Majority of the evidence is paraphrased. The works cited page is correctly formatted.	___/ 10
TOTAL	___/ 35

Additional Comments: